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Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable WAYNE ALLARD, a Senator from the State of Colorado.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Gracious God, You have been faithful to help us when we have asked for Your guidance and strength. May we be as quick to praise You for what You have done for us in the past as we are to ask You to bless us in the future. We have come to You in difficulties and crises this week; You have been on time and in time in Your interventions. Thank You, Lord, for Your providential care of this Senate as it has dealt with an immense workload.

Now, as a much needed recess is taken, we thank You for all the people who make it possible for the Senate to function effectively. Especially, we thank You for the Senators' staffs and all those here in the Senate Chamber who work cheerfully and diligently for long hours to keep the legislative process moving smoothly. Help us to take no one for granted and express our gratitude to each one.

Lord, when this day's work is done, give us refreshment of mind, spirit, and body. Watch over us as we are absent from each other and bring us back with renewed dedication to You and this great Nation we serve. In the name of our Lord and Savior. Amen.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, July 31, 1998.

TO THE SENATE: Under the provisions of rule I, section 3, of the Standing Rules of the

Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable WAYNE ALLARD, a Senator from the State of Colorado, to perform the duties of the Chair.

STROM THURMOND,
President pro tempore.

Mr. ALLARD thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

THE SENATE CHAPLAIN

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, we thank our Chaplain for his always meaningful prayers, and we will certainly think of him and all of our colleagues who work with us during this August recess period when we go back to our respective States.

PRAYERS FOR THE FAMILY, FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES OF OFFICER J.J. CHESTNUT

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, once again, I want to acknowledge that our thoughts this morning are with the family, friends and colleagues of Officer J.J. Chestnut. He will pass before the Capitol one last time today and be laid to rest. Our hearts continue to be heavy with sorrow for the loss of this fine man. We certainly have his family in our prayers today.

SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, we will have a period for morning business today. Following that, the Senate will turn to the consideration of any legislative or Executive Calendar items cleared for action. We are hopeful that some bills can be cleared by unanimous consent. I believe that last night we were able to move around some 20

nominations, plus military nominations, plus at least two or three bills. The Work Force Development Conference Report was one of those. I am glad we were able to move it quickly by unanimous consent. It is almost a shame to do it just in wrap-up because that is such a monumental achievement. We have been working on that legislation now for at least 3 years. We have had difficulty getting it through each body and through conference. But I believe the conferees did a fine job.

I commend Senators JEFFORDS, DEWINE, and all the Senators on both sides of the aisle that were involved in that. That consolidation of jobs training programs will allow us to get better use of the money we have, and a better program for workplace development is an important cog in our effort to improve our overall education opportunities, which should include job training.

As we continue to move toward more and more people going off of welfare and into meaningful jobs, it means we have to continue to work and improve elementary and secondary education, higher education, as well as vocational education and job training. I believe that conference report will do that. I wanted to point out once again this morning what did occur last night. We will continue to try to move other agreed-to bills and conference reports of that nature. We do expect that we will move a number of nominations throughout the day. We may even have to wait a little while to get those agreements worked out or to see if there are others that may be coming out that could be cleared today.

When the Senate returns from the August break, there will be two back-to-back rollcall votes at a time to be determined by the two leaders. Obviously, as we announced last night, there will be no recorded votes today. I know all the Senators already knew that, but I just wanted to confirm it

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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